

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously presented) A solid dermatological composition comprising a biologically active agent dissolved in a homogeneous carrier system, wherein the carrier system consists essentially of:

(a) 20-85% by weight of a solvent comprising (i) an unsaturated C₁₆-C₂₀-fatty acid alcohol selected from one or more of oleyl alcohol, ricinolyl alcohol, linolyl alcohol, linoleyl alcohol, eleosteryl alcohol, palmitoleyl alcohol, or arachidonyl alcohol in combination with (ii) an alkylene glycol selected from one or more of propylene glycol or dipropylene glycol, said alkylene glycol being present in the solvent in an amount of more than 12% by weight to provide for mutual dissolution of the unsaturated C₁₆-C₂₀-fatty acid alcohol and the active agent; and

(b) 15-80% of a viscosity enhancing agent that is a waxy substance for imparting a solid consistency to the composition; all percentages in (a) and (b) being based on the total weight of the homogeneous carrier system.

56. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the amount of said alkylene glycol is at least 15 % by weight.

57. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the biologically active agent comprises a lipophilic compound.

58. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 57, wherein the biologically active compound is selected from the group consisting of steroids, sex hormones, vitamins, biologically active lipids, fatty acids, antivirals, antibacterials, antiprotozoals, antifungals, and local anesthetics.

59. (Currently amended) [A] The composition as claimed in according to claim 58, wherein the biologically active compound is selected from fluocinonide, omega-3-fatty acid, [and] azelaic acid, and salts and esters thereof.

60. (Currently amended) [A] The composition as claimed in according to claim 58,
wherein the biologically active compound is clobetasol or a salt or an ester thereof.
61. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the alkylene glycol is propylene glycol.
62. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the solvent additionally comprises propyl myristate, palmitate, isopropylpalmitate, stearate, propyl ester of sorbic acid and combinations thereof.
63. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 62, wherein said additional solvent is isopropylpalmitate.
64. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the waxy substance comprises a natural or synthetic wax, a fat, a glycol ester of a C₁₈-C₃₆ fatty acid, or a mixture of two or more thereof.
65. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 64, wherein the waxy substance comprises a combination of a natural or synthetic wax and one or a combination of a triglyceride or a glycol ester.
- 66.-67. (Canceled)
68. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the amount of solvent is within the range of 25-75 % by weight, and the amount of viscosity enhancing agent is within the range of 15-55%, based on the total weight of the homogeneous carrier system.
69. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the amount of said alkylene glycol is within the range of 12-23% by weight, based on the total weight of the homogeneous carrier system.
70. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 62, wherein the weight ratio of unsaturated fatty acid : alcohol additional solvent ranges from 1:2 to 5:1.

71. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the biologically active agent is present in a concentration of up to the solubility limit thereof in the homogeneous carrier system.

72. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the concentration of the biologically active agent is 0.01-10%, by weight, based on the weight of the homogeneous carrier system.

73. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein said composition is a stick.

74. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the biologically active agent is a therapeutically or prophylactically active agent.

75. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 74, for topical application to the skin of a mammal, said composition having a viscosity that is adapted for said application.

76. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a biologically active composition according to claim 55, comprising: dissolving the biologically active agent in said solvent therefor; combining the resulting solution with a viscosity enhancing agent so as to impart a solid consistency to said solution; and shaping the resulting composition into a desired form.

77. (Previously presented) A method of prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of a dermatological condition comprising: topically applying a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of an active agent containing the solid composition according to claim 55, wherein the active agent is an agent for treatment or prophylaxis of a dermatological condition.

78. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 77, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of a steroid, vitamin, biologically active lipid, fatty acid, antimicrobial, and anesthetic.

79. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 77, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of a corticosteroid, sex hormone, vitamin A, vitamin [B2] D2, vitamin [B3] D3, vitamin E, vitamin K, an antibiotic, an antiviral, an anti-protozoal, an antifungal, and an amide local anesthetic.

80. (Currently amended) The method [of] according to claim 77, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of clobetasol or a salt or ether thereof and beta-methasone, or a salt or ester thereof.

81. (Currently amended) The method [of] according to claim 80, wherein the active agent is clobetasol propionate, methasone-17-valerate, or beta-methasone dipropionate.

82. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the biologically active agent is a lipophilic drug.

83. (Currently amended) [A] The composition according to as claimed in claim 57, wherein the biologically active compound is a lipophilic anesthetic of the amide type.

84. (Currently amended) A composition according to as claimed in claim 60, wherein the biologically active compound is clobetasol propionate.

85. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the waxy substance comprises a natural or a synthetic wax that is a monoester of a long-chain carboxylic acid with a long-chain alcohol, and the fat is a triglyceride of a C₁₈-C₃₆ fatty acid.

86.-88. (Canceled)

89. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the amount of said alkylene glycol ranges from 15-23% by weight, based on the total weight of the homogeneous carrier system.

90. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the amount of said alkylene glycol ranges from 12-20% by weight, based on the total weight of the homogeneous carrier system.

91. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the amount of said alkylene glycol ranges from ranges from 15-20% by weight, based on the total weight of the homogeneous carrier system.

92. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 62, wherein the weight ratio of unsaturated fatty acid alcohol : additional solvent is within the range of 1:2 to 3:1.

93. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 62, wherein the weight ratio of unsaturated fatty acid alcohol : additional solvent is within the range of 1:2 to 2:1.

94. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 55, wherein the concentration of the biologically active agent is 0.02-5% by weight based on the weight of the homogeneous carrier system.

95. (Currently amended) [A] The composition as claimed in according to claim 55, wherein the biologically active compound is betamethasone, or a salt or ester thereof.

96. (Currently amended) [A] The composition according to claim 55, wherein the biologically active compound is beta-methasone-17-valerate or beta-methasone dipropionate.

97. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 58, wherein the steroid is a corticosteroid.

98. (Currently amended) The compound [of] according to claim 58, wherein the sex hormone is selected from the group consisting of androgens, estrogens and derivatives thereof.

99. (Currently amended) The compound [of] according to claim 58, wherein the vitamin is selected from the group consisting of vitamin A, vitamin [B2] D2, vitamin [B3] D3, vitamin E and vitamin K.